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Security Information
IAC-D-46
25 March 1952

INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

PROPOSED NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE ESTIMATES

The following proposals are submitted by the National Estimates Board for consideration of the IAC.

PROBLEM

1. To initiate National Intelligence Estimates on the Argentine, Chile, and Venezuela.

FACTS BEARING ON THE PROBLEM

2. No NIE has yet been written on these important Latin-American countries.

3. Informal discussions between the Special Assistant, Intelligence, Department of State and the Deputy Director/Intelligence, CIA have indicated that a need is felt for an evaluation of the effect of current developments in those countries on the security interests of the US.

DISCUSSION

4. In Argentina, the deterioration of the economic situation, accompanied by an increase in President Peron's anti-US propaganda, may portend a situation that would adversely affect US interests in South America.

5. Chile, with one of the largest Communist parties in Latin America, has a general election scheduled for this year. The Communists have always exploited their superior organization to draw full benefit from electoral periods. There are also candidates who are oriented towards the anti-US line of Peron's personal press and radio organizations. The Chilean elections and the forces released in connection with them are possibly of importance to US security interests in the area.

6. Venezuela's oil and iron constitute a major asset for the Western World in its struggle with the Soviet bloc. The protection of this asset must be a major objective in US cold-war strategy. The

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present military junta of Venezuela has powerful enemies, and its ability and willingness to support US policies, as well as its prospects, should be assessed.

RECOMMENDATION*

7. That the IAC approve the initiation of the following estimates:

- a. NIE-66: Probable Developments in Argentina. Priority: High. Target date: 15 May.
- b. NIE-67: Probable Developments in Chile with Particular Reference to the Implications of the Electoral Period. Priority: Routine. Target date: 15 June.
- c. NIE-68: Probable Developments in Venezuela, with Particular Reference to Factors Affecting the Availability to the US of Strategic Materials. Priority: Routine. Target date: 1 July.

Secretary

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